

1 AN ACT concerning schools.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,  
3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The School Code is amended by adding Section  
5 2-3.61a as follows:

6 (105 ILCS 5/2-3.61a new)

7 Sec. 2-3.61a. 21st Century Community Learning Center  
8 Grant Program.

9 (a) The State Board of Education shall be the designated  
10 agency responsible for the administration of programs under  
11 Part I of Subchapter X of Chapter 70 of the federal  
12 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

13 (b) The State Board of Education shall establish and  
14 implement a 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant  
15 Program, in accordance with federal guidelines, to provide  
16 grants to support academically focused after-school programs  
17 for students who attend high-poverty, low-performing schools.  
18 These grants shall be used to help those students who attend  
19 high-poverty, low-performing schools meet State and local  
20 performance standards in core academic subjects and to offer  
21 families of participating students opportunities for improved  
22 literacy and related educational development.

23 The State Board of Education shall award grants to  
24 applicants that are of sufficient size and scope to support  
25 high-quality, effective after-school programs, to ensure  
26 reasonable success of achieving the goals identified in the  
27 grant application, and to offer those activities that are  
28 necessary to achieve these goals.

29 (c) Using State funds, subject to appropriation, and any  
30 federal funds received for this purpose, the State Board of  
31 Education may establish any other grant programs that are

1 necessary to establish high-quality, academically based,  
2 after-school programs that include family-centered education  
3 activities.

4 (d) The State Board of Education may adopt any rules  
5 necessary to implement this Section.

6 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
7 becoming law.